

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KUALA 04221 301014Z

20

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 CPR-02 SCA-01

PRS-01 SY-04 USSS-00 FBIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00

RSC-01 DRC-01 /099 W

----- 107690

R 300822Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7847

USUN NEW YORK 499

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC HONOLULU

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 4221

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MY, UN

SUBJ: SARDON APPOINTED NEW MALAYSIAN PERMREP TO U.N.

REF: (A) K.L. 3943; (B) STATE 170108

1. FORMER COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER TAN SRI SARDON BIN HAJI JUBIR (SURNAME SARDON) HAS BEEN APPOINTED AS MALAYSIA'S NEW PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO UNITED NATIONS REPLACING ZAKARIA BIN HAJI MOHD. ALI. ACCORDING PRESS REPORTS AUG 30, SARDON WILL LEAVE FOR NEW YORK SHORTLY TO HEAD GOM DELEGATION TO UNGA. IT EARLIER REPORTED (REFTEL) THAT INFORMATION MINISTER TUNKU RITHAUDDEEN WOULD LEAD GOM DELEGATION IN EARLY WEEKS OF GA, BUT RITHAUDDEEN'S ATTENDANCE NOW QUESTIONABLE IN VIEW OF SARDON'S
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KUALA 04221 301014Z

PLANS TO ASSUME PERMREP POST, PROBABLY IN SEPT. IT MAY WELL

BE THAT PRIME MINISTER RAZAK INTENDS GIVE RITHAUDDEEN MORE RESPONSIBLE CABINET POST REQUIRING HIS PRESENCE HERE DURING PERIOD OF GA SESSION. IT EXPECTED THAT REMAINDER OF GA DELEGATION WILL BE NAMED WITHIN NEXT WEEK OR SO. ALSO, APPOINTMENT OF SARDON TO NEW YORK PRESAGES DESIGNATION OF NEW GOM HIGH COMMISSIONER TO CANADA IN PLACE OF ZAKARIA WHO HOLDS THAT POSITION IN ADDITION TO UN POST. ACCORDING DIPLOMATIC SOURCES HERE, ZAKARIA MAY BE REPLACED IN OTTAWA BY TAN SRI PHILIP KUOK, PRESENT AMBASSADOR TO GERMANY.

2. BIODATA: SARDON HAS SERVED AS CABINET MINISTER (WORKS, TRANSPORT, HEALTH AND COMMUNICATIONS) SINCE 1955 AND HAS HELD HIGH POSITIONS IN RULING UNITED MALAYS NATIONAL ORGANIZATION (UMNO). SARDON IS CONSUMMATE GRASS-ROOTS POLITICIAN AND HAS ENJOYED BROAD SUPPORT AMONG ELECTORATE. HIS RETIREMENT FROM ELECTIVE POLITICS THIS YEAR, THEREFORE, CAME SOMEWHAT AS A SURPRISE ALTHOUGH IT KNOWN THAT PM RAZAK WISHED TO REMOVE SOME OLD-LINE UMNO POLITICIANS (SEE K.L. A-108, 8/12/74). SARDON WAS BORN IN JOHORE ON MARCH 19, 1917; HE IS LAWYER, ALTHOUGH HAS NOT PRACTICES SINCE ENTERING POLITICS IN MALAYA IN 1951. DURING HIS LONG PUBLIC CAREER, SARDON HAS ATTENDED NUMEROUS MEETINGS OF INTL ORGANIZATIONS AND HAS ABIDING INTEREST IN INTL BOY SCOUT MOVEMENT. HE HAS VISITED U.S. SEVERAL TIMES AND WAS RECIPIENT OF LEADER GRANT IN 1952. SARDON IS MARRIED TO PUAN SA'ADIAH RPT SA'ADIAH, AN INTELLIGENT AND ARTICULATE WOMAN WHO HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN NATIONAL WOMEN'S AFFAIRS; THEY HAVE FOUR GROWN CHILDREN.

3. COMMENT: JOCULAR AND OUTGOING, SARDON IS APPRECIATE FOR HIS PERSONAL WARMTH AND OPENNESS, BUT IS NOT KNOWN FOR HIS ABILITIES AS AN ADMINISTRATOR OR AS ONE WHO EASILY GRASPS COMPLEX POLICY AND TECHNICAL PROBLEMS. IT APPEARS THAT PRIMARY MOTIVATION FOR SARDON'S APPOINTMENT AS PERMREP IS TO REMOVE HIM FROM DOMESTIC POLITICAL SCENE AND TO GIVE HIM JOB OF SUFFICIENT PRESTIGE TO BE ACCEPTABLE TO HIS MANY POLITICAL SUPPORTERS WITHIN UMNO. UNFORTUNATELY, SARDON IS NOT LIKELY TO BE STELLAR PERFORMER IN HIS UN DUTIES, BUT SHOULD PROVE AFFABLE CONTACT FOR USUN.
UNDERHILL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974KUALA04221
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740240-1141
From: KUALA LUMPUR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974084/aaaaadju.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) K.L. 3943; (B) STATE 170108
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <13-Aug-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SARDON APPOINTED NEW MALAYSIAN PERMREP TO U.N.
TAGS: PFOR, MY, UN, (SARDON BIN HAJI JUBIR)
To: STATE USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005